

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 084173

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ORIGIN SS-25

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DRAFTED BY NEA/IAI:WTCLUVERIUS:HE

APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY

NEA - MR. ATHERTON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL JERUSALEMIMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 084173

EXDIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:PFOR, US, IS

SUBJECT:ISRAELI REQUEST TO RESTRICT CONGEN ACTIVITIES ON
WEST BANK

REFS: TEL AVIV 1809, JERUSALEM 720, 721AMMAN 2062

1. YOU TOOK EXACTLY RIGHT LINE IN RESPONSE TO
"REQUEST" THAT CONGEN OFFICERS GREATLY RESTRICT THEIR
ACCESS TO WEST BANK RESIDENTS AND THAT CONTACTS WITH WEST
BANK OFFICIALS BE ARRANGED THROUGH MFA AND MILITARY GOVERN-
MENT. WE AGREE THAT WE SHOULD NOT COMPLY WITH REQUEST.
RATHER THAN RAISE THIS TO ALLON'S LEVEL, WE PREFER TO
ATTEMPT TO TURN THIS OFF THROUGH DCM-EVRON CHANNEL. EVRON'S
JUSTIFICATION FOR REQUEST VERY WEAK BUT RATHER THAN ENGAGE
AT THIS POINT IN DETAILED REFUTATIONS, DCM SHOULD SEEK EARLY
APPOINTMENT WITH EVRON AND INFORM HIM PER PARA 2 BELOW,
NOTING THAT HE IS UNDER INSTRUCTIONS FROM DEPT (WITHOUT
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PAGE 02 STATE 084173

SPECIFYING LEVEL).

2. ISRAELI VIEWS ON RESTRICTING THE LEVEL AND EXTENT OF
CONTACTS BETWEEN OFFICERS OF OUR CONSULATE GENERAL AND
WEST BANK RESIDENTS HAVE BEEN STUDIED BY USG. USG CONSIDERS

THAT SUCH A CHANGE IN POLICY WOULD BE RETROGRESSIVE AND
SINCERELY HOPES GOI WILL NOT PURSUE MATTER AND WILL NOT
FORMALLY INSTITUTE SUCH RESTRICTIONS, WHICH COULD NOT HELP
BUT CREATE SERIOUS AND UNNECESSARY ISSUE BETWEEN US. USG
INTENTION IS THAT ITS OFFICERS WILL CONTINUE TO CARRY
ON WITH THEIR DUTIES AS IN THE PAST.

3. FOR JERUSALEM: DATA AND ARGUMENTATION IN JERUSALEM
REFTELS APPRECIATED AND WE WILL FIND THEM USEFUL IF THIS
ATTEMPT TO END THE MATTER WITHOUT A WRANGLE DOES NOT WORK.
KISSINGER

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